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### Suffolk Journal Vol. 64, No. 17, 2/18/2004

Suffolk Journal

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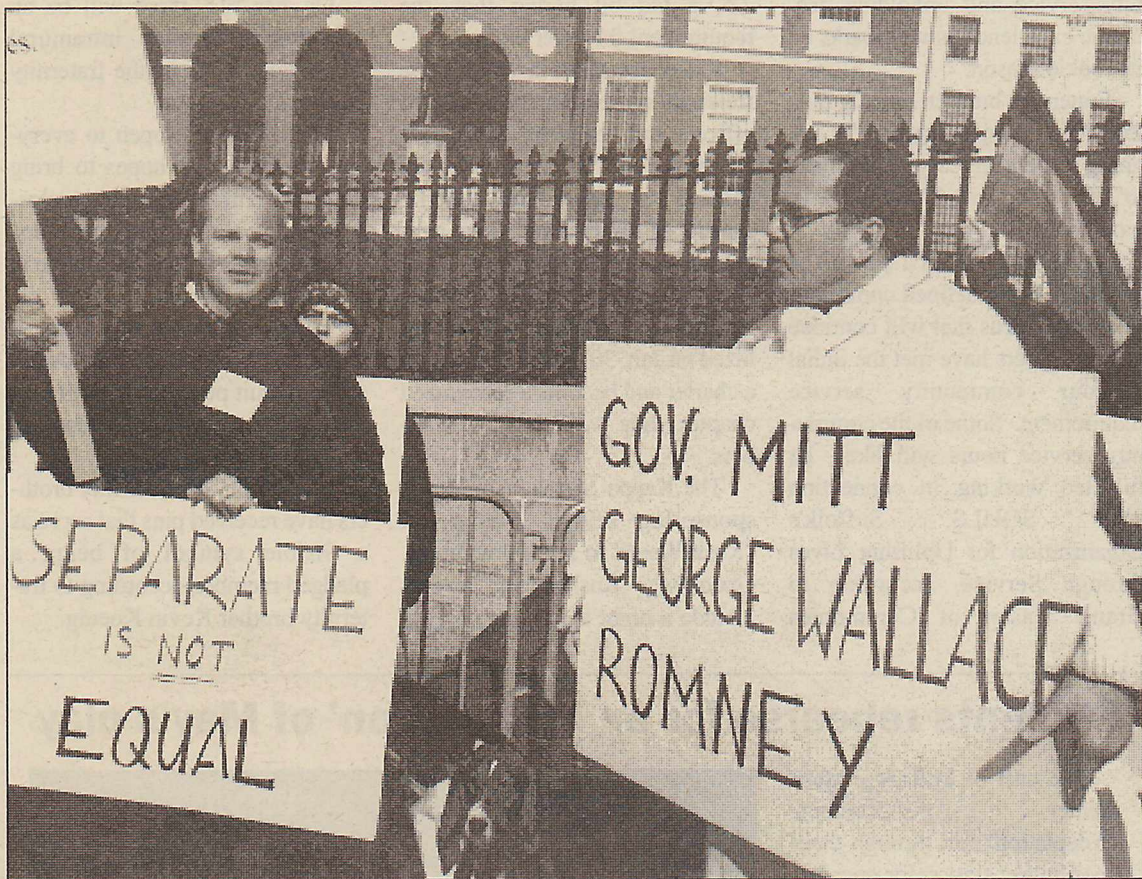
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Rose Francois - Journal Staff

Gay marriage supporters rally at the State House on Beacon Street as lawmakers debate inside.

## Marriage debate riles students

Rose Francois

Journal Staff

Days of debate over the fate of gay marriages in Massachusetts have ended in a stalemate.

In terms of reaching a conclusion, neither opponents nor advocates of gay marriage gained ground on the matter.

As it stands right now, the Commonwealth is set to recognize gay marriages beginning May 17, which has created intense dialogue across America.

In the aftermath of the Legislature's indecision, those on both sides of the issue are uncertain about a possible outcome.

For proponents of same-sex marriage, this is about equal rights. "It's all based on inequality," says Wilma Arguinzoni, associate director of Diversity Services at Suffolk.

"This notion of separate but equal is such a farce." Her office urges students to go to rallies and take part in letter writing campaigns in support of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues.

Those in favor of gay marriage say that the right to be protected in the same manner as their straight counterparts is their greatest concern.

Supporters have said Vermont-style civil unions would offer only one-third of the rights that married heterosexual couples enjoy and that nothing less than marriage would be acceptable.

Those who oppose gay marriages are willing to change the Massachusetts constitution to ban

such marriages.

"It's frightening," said 21-year-old Gregory Smith, a student at Suffolk. "What's to stop them from rewriting the constitution for something else they don't like?" wondered Smith, whose fears are echoed by others. The possibility of the constitution being amended "makes me nervous," said Mallory Cherry, a 21-year-old senior at Suffolk and self-described "liberal with a conservative background."

If politicians rewrite the constitution "that's deliberately saying, we in Massachusetts don't like gay people. Gay people should not have rights," said Cherry.

Three amendments to the constitution were proposed and all were voted down during debates on Feb. 11 and 12.

Those against same-sex marriages argue that they are not trying to discriminate against gays; rather they are trying to protect the sanctity of marriage and traditional family values, observers say. But even those who do not support gay marriage are divided on the issue.

"I believe marriage should be between a man and a woman, but I don't support discrimination," said 18-year-old Fena Fenelon of Suffolk.

The current controversy has changed many minds of people that are either for or against same-sex marriage.

Yasser Jean-Charles, a 20-year-old government major, said the debate has changed his opinion. "Before, I was against gay marriage but for civil unions," Charles

said. "But 'separate but equal' is impossible. The dominate group will always be better off."

Come November, when the presidential election takes place, same-sex marriages will be a key issue. The remaining presidential nominees have been strategically avoiding the topic of gay marriage. Current Democratic leader Sen. John F. Kerry has repeatedly said that he does not support gay marriages but is in favor of civil unions.

President George W. Bush has said he would support a ban on gay marriages in the United States.

Some conservatives said the topic might cost Bush some votes in the election. Nineteen-year-old Boston University student C. Brader, a gay, male Republican, questioned his political favor in the next vote. "Will I vote Republican this year? I don't know."

Clearly neither Republicans nor the Democrats can afford to ignore this subject.

For now the Legislature has not made any decisions on gay marriage. They are scheduled to meet again on March 11 to debate the matter. For the time being eyes are focused on San Francisco, Calif., which is now at the center of another media circus after issuing marriage licenses to gay couples over the weekend.

The impact of this issue is everywhere and touches all of America. The two opposing factions are now regrouping, waiting for the next battle wherever that might be.

## SGA focuses on course load

Jimmy Cronin

Journal Staff

The Student Government Association, fresh off winter hibernation and eager to act on concerns of the student body, is working with the administration to explore lightening the required course load by one class in order to graduate.

Associate Dean Kenneth Greenberg has been conferring with SGA's academics committee about the possible policy change. Each hope that by reducing the semester load, from five classes to four, students will be allowed "to get a more in-depth education overall and lessen the general student feeling of being stretched too thin," said Dan Monahan, chair of the committee. If put into action, he said, the system would require approximately 32 classes in order to graduate, as opposed to 40, as it stands now.

According to Monahan, "Reducing the overall number of classes needed [to graduate] will also reduce the core and divisional requirements."

President Dave Rodrigues said

the discussions are in their infant stages. "We really want to get to the heart of what Dean Greenberg wants," he said.

In other developments, the Housing Committee, with newly appointed chair Emily Ruskowski, is planning to explore adopting a wireless Internet system for the Donahue building, according to Vice President Becky Harlow.

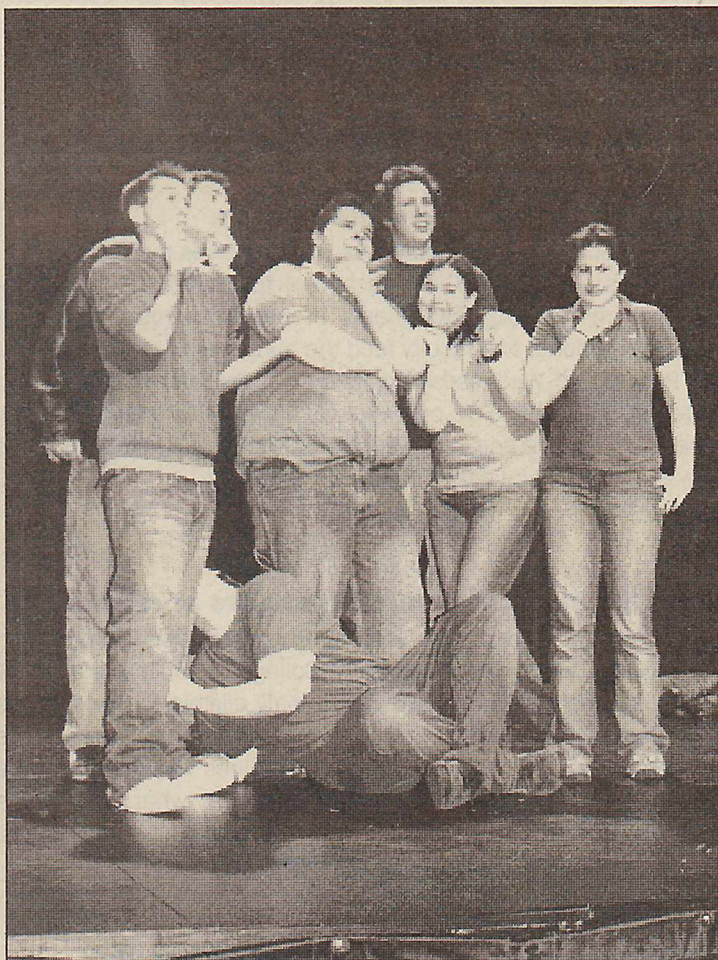
"Emily is going to talk to other universities in the area that have wireless capabilities," Harlow said. The issue raises many different concerns, from the antennae that would have to be installed at various strategic places on the Donahue building to the cost of such an undertaking, she said.

"We're starting off small," Rodrigues said. "We would do our research and decide where it would be best and most used" before SGA would approach the administration with a proposal. "We're going to do what's best for the university."

There is still interest in installing ATM machines on campus, Harlow said. "Citizen's [Bank] has given us a new propos-

see SGA, page 2

## Improv troupe laughs it up



Eleni Bourinaris - Journal Staff

Members of Seriously Bent goof around on the C. Walsh Theatre stage during the Eat My Improv performance on Feb. 13. Three improv comedy groups from local universities were showcased.



# NEWS Briefs

## Frat aims to unite campus

Jenn O'Callaghan

Journal Staff

Suffolk's new fraternity, Kappa Sigma, plans to focus on community service and upholding academic excellence as it embarks on its rookie season.

Fraternity brother Josh Giudici said that Kappa Sigma "is not going to be a stereotype. We have to do a good job. Otherwise, we wouldn't exist."

Aside from social aspects, the fraternity has a defined community service focus that will continue after members have met the initial 25-hour community service requirement. Some of the community service hours will likely be fulfilled working in connection with SOULS, Suffolk's Organization for Uplifting Lives through Service, according to Grand Master of Ceremonies

Scooter Walper, a junior.

Another requirement of the fraternity is good academic standing, as the members need to have a minimum grade point average of 2.5, a tad bit higher than the requirement for other clubs.

Since becoming a colony, the fraternity's brothers have elected officers and chairs of the various committees. The committees are formed to focus on specific aspects of the fraternity like academic standing of members.

By meeting the 25-member requirement, the frat was recognized on Jan. 30. In order to obtain a charter and become a recognized chapter, they will need 50 members.

The Kappa Sigma fraternity is sponsoring several events for "Rush Week" to recruit members. Upcoming "Rush Week" events include a night at Jillian's on Feb.

18.

There will also be a movie night with pizza and soda at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 19 on the fourth floor of the Donahue building.

On Feb. 21, there will be an opportunity to play intramural sports with some of the fraternity brothers.

The events are open to everyone, as the group hopes to bring the entire Suffolk community closer together, according to members.

The events will allow people to get more information about the fraternity and meet members. It will also allow the fraternity brothers to recruit people who will best represent the fraternity, according to Walper.

In addition, the fraternity brothers have received pins that serve as a visible symbol of being a pledged member, according to fraternity brother Kevin Koenig.

### Student suffers discomfort in lab accident

Rumors swirled around areas of campus last week that an explosion occurred in a chemistry lab when fire trucks and an ambulance gathered around Donahue with the Suffolk police. According to Dr. Steven Paterson of the chemistry department, on Feb. 11 a "minor accident" occurred in the organic chemistry lab when a student conducting an experiment with sulfuric acid accidentally came in contact with the substance, which "is one of the most dangerous acids there is." The student, who was wearing protective clothing, suffered minor injuries and declined medical treatment.

### Greek Festival returns

Suffolk University's Hellenic Club will be hosting its fourth annual Greek Festival on Feb. 19. The event, which will be located in the Donahue Café, will last from 6 to 10 p.m. and feature authentic Greek food and music. Members of the Hellenic Club will be performing and teaching traditional Greek dances at the festival. Admission is free, however donations will be collected to help benefit the Hellenic Cardiac Fund.

### Long-time member of community retiring

Lou Connelly, an active member of the Suffolk University administration for over 36 years, has announced that he will be retiring as sports information director. Connelly, 76, was chosen as Suffolk's first public relations director in 1967 and went on to hold the position for nearly three decades. Coach Jim Nelson called Connelly's experience "invaluable in promoting the positive image of athletics on behalf of our student athletes."

### Thieves break into Beacon Hill homes

There has been an outbreak of burglaries in the Beacon Hill area, according to *The Beacon Hill Times*. Burglars broke into nine homes over the ten-day period since Jan. 26. Break-ins occurred at Smith Court and Cambridge, West Cedar, Garden, Chestnut and Joy streets. Thefts occurred during the day and thieves entered the houses through windows and stole jewelry, laptop computers and cash. Police are urging residents to call 911 if they "see someone that looks even remotely suspicious," according to the neighborhood paper.

### SOULS group help feed the hungry

SOULS, Suffolk's Organization for Uplifting Lives through Service, participates in a "Supper Club" each week to assist with meal preparation for more than 150 guests in need. A group of Suffolk University students and faculty feed the hungry at the Paulist Center at 5 Park St. on Wednesday nights and at St. John the Evangelist Church at 35 Bowdoin St. on Thursday nights. All students are welcome to participate and can meet the SOULS group in the Donahue lobby at 4:45 p.m. on either night.

### Roger Williams scholarship angers students

Controversy erupted this week at Roger Williams University in Rhode Island, where the student-run College Republican's are now offering a scholarship of \$250 that is only eligible to the school's white students. The award, which the organization characterizes as a protest against minority scholarships, requires visual proof of the applicants "whiteness" as well as an essay on "what being white means to you." Due to nationwide coverage and outside donations, the scholarship is expected to rise to more than \$2,000.

### Students apply for commencement speaker

Applications for the 2004 student commencement speaker are now available in the Dean of Students Office in the Ridgeway building on the third floor, The Hub in the Donahue Lobby and the Student Activities Office in the Donahue building. The deadline to submit applications is 4 p.m. on March 26.

## Students rehearse for an 'Adaptation' of May's play

The cast of Suffolk's latest theater performance "Adaptation" run through their lines in preparation for opening day on Feb. 19. Based on the script by comedic writer Elaine May, the play is being produced by Suffolk Student Theatre and directed by student Mike DiLoreto.

General Manager of the Theatre Department Jim Kaufman describes "Adaptation" as a ruthless satire "depicting one man's life as a game show" in which Phil, being portrayed by Alex Pollock, must play a Parcheesi-esq game show through the seven stages of his life. Adaptation will be running from Feb. 19 to 22.



Paul Fissette - Journal Staff

## SGA eyes expanded resources

SGA from page 1

al," she said, adding that if the cash machine does not get a certain number of hits, or meets the required number of times it needs to be used to remain active, then Suffolk would have to pay an extra fee. Harlow said members of the administration have expressed interest in having a machine on campus "free of charge" to the university.

"Let's-make-a-deal is what they're playing to get the best deal for the students," Harlow said.

On the administrative side, the Office of Student Activities recently made a policy change so that students who are elected to the executive boards of student organizations must now maintain a minimum 2.3 grade point average to hold their elected positions, including all elected members of SGA. The change was made to benefit students, Rodrigues said.

"They don't want students who serve on executive boards to put their graduations in jeopardy," he

said. Trustee ambassadors, orientation and service scholars are required to maintain a grade point average of 2.8 or higher.

On Feb. 5, SGA passed legislation to purchase student suggestion boxes. "A total of 10 suggestion boxes will be installed around campus over the next several weeks," Monahan said.

The organization hopes the boxes will benefit students by increasing the accessibility of SGA members.

"We're really hoping that they will be a good conduit for the students to get back to us," the president said. "We're always keeping our eyes and ears open to new issues."

Allan Motenko, who recently took the helm of the treasury committee in the wake of Sean Duggan's abrupt resignation, said he has been enjoying his role and executing the tasks at hand. "The transition has been smooth," he said. "With the exception of two clubs, all of the Spring 2004 budg-

ets are set and in play."

The Boston Intercollegiate Government will meet at Northeastern University this evening to discuss the backlash of the riots that took place following the Patriots' Super Bowl victory.

"We feel that individuals are responsible for the damage caused," said Rodrigues, who serves as vice-chairperson for BIG. "It shouldn't have an adverse effect on the student population as a whole."

At their next weekly meeting, SGA representatives hope to pass a new, more clearly written treasurer's manual to outline the channels and processes for monetary issues within student clubs. It is an essential document for clubs dealing with money issues.

From planning events to fundraising, "this document shows the way for any club" to deal with money, according to freshman representative Max Koskoff, whose campaign slogan for next year is "Blast off with Koskoff."



# Improv groups take comedy skits Seriously

Eleni Bourinaris

Journal Staff

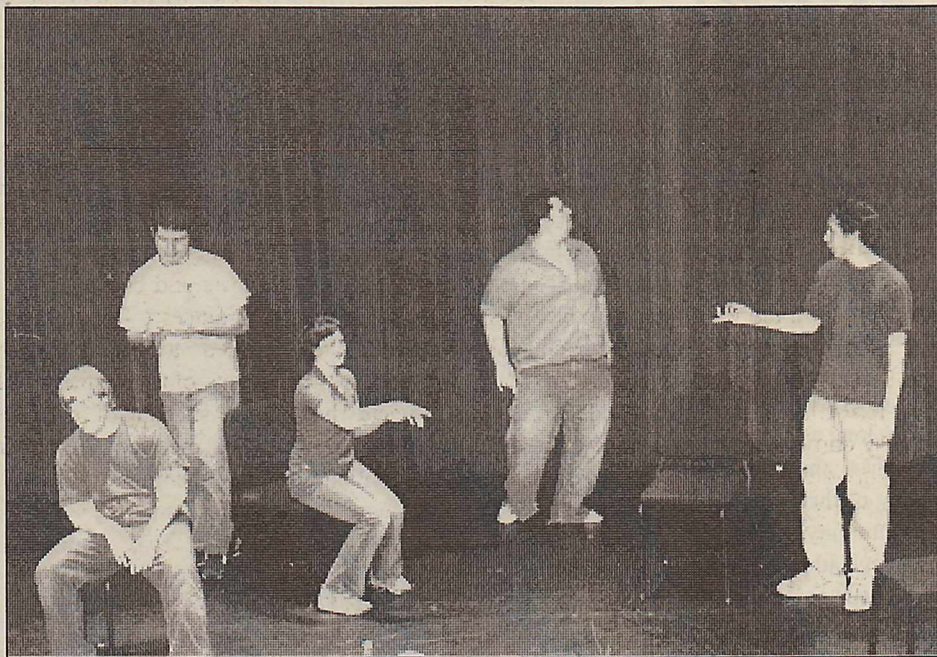
Students for Performing Arts kicked off the long weekend with an evening of comedy on Feb. 13 as improvisational groups Nu+Improv'd, This is Pathetic and Suffolk's Seriously Bent ushered in the laughs for the second annual Eat My Improv Festival.

Laughter was superfluous in the C. Walsh Theatre even before Nu+Improv'd opened the show. The audience was a diverse mixture of Suffolk, Northeastern University and Emerson College students craving a chuckle.

The performance started with a fair warning: "Please turn off your cell phones because if they ring I'll steal them."

Nu+Improv'd is an improvisational performance group from Northeastern founded in 2002 by Chad Cooper. The group consists of about 15 members targeting a predominantly college student fan base.

They opened the show with an urgent newscast: A drugged-up Snow White has been taken hostage by midgets and is being held at knifepoint. Kelly Reagan, a doctor who graduated from Suffolk with a degree in "midgetology" claimed that their program is "below the bar," literally. According to her very thorough studies, "midgets can be very irate people." Snow White, played by Amanda Nesi, didn't mind the situation because Snow White "hasn't



Eleni Bourinaris - Journal Staff

Suffolk students display their improvisational talents in Seriously Bent on Feb. 13.

been played in sooo long." Nu+Improv'd performances can be found at their regular spot, After Hours once a month at 9 p.m.

Emerson's comedy troupe, This is Pathetic, is a 15-year-old tradition that has evolved through the years. It started with a specialization in puppetry and mime, but has grown into social satire through sketches, improv and film.

The comical quintet opened the show

with a parody of "Harry Potter," who demonstrated a lot of pent up sexual energy. "There's something with my wand, it's vibrating," Potter explained to Hermione. Aware of the problem ahead, Hermione expressed her uneasiness when Harry's wand vibrated in his sleep. Harry tried to convince Hermione to try the vibrating wand and ended the scene with Harry screaming, "Baby Jean, Baby Jean. I told

you not to play with big objects" in a frenzy of X-rated comedy.

Created four years ago and produced and performed by College of Arts and Sciences and New England School of Art and Design students, Seriously Bent is Suffolk's in-house comedy troupe of seven students specializing in sketch and improv. Each of Seriously Bent's 12 skits was a different game.

"The Dating Game," hosted by Tim Enright, brought in a bachelor, Brian Liberge, who had to choose a date based on their personalities. Chris Aguiar played a man obsessed with math.

When asked about the perfect date, Aguiar said he'd go out for pizza and then proceeded to discuss fractions - to all math majors out there, it's a major turn off. Unicorn Tony Passafiume was out of the running early in the game, once he started to scratch himself and harass the mathematician next to him. Anna Nicole Smith was the last contestant, moaning in the background, played by birthday girl Caitlin Kenny. After taking a bottle of Trim Spa, Smith left the stage dateless and the bachelor lost the game because he couldn't think of the celebrity's name.

Due to time and scheduling constraints, Eat My Improv was Chris Aguiar's last performance with Seriously Bent. Aguiar, who has been with the Performing Arts Center for two years, is moving on.

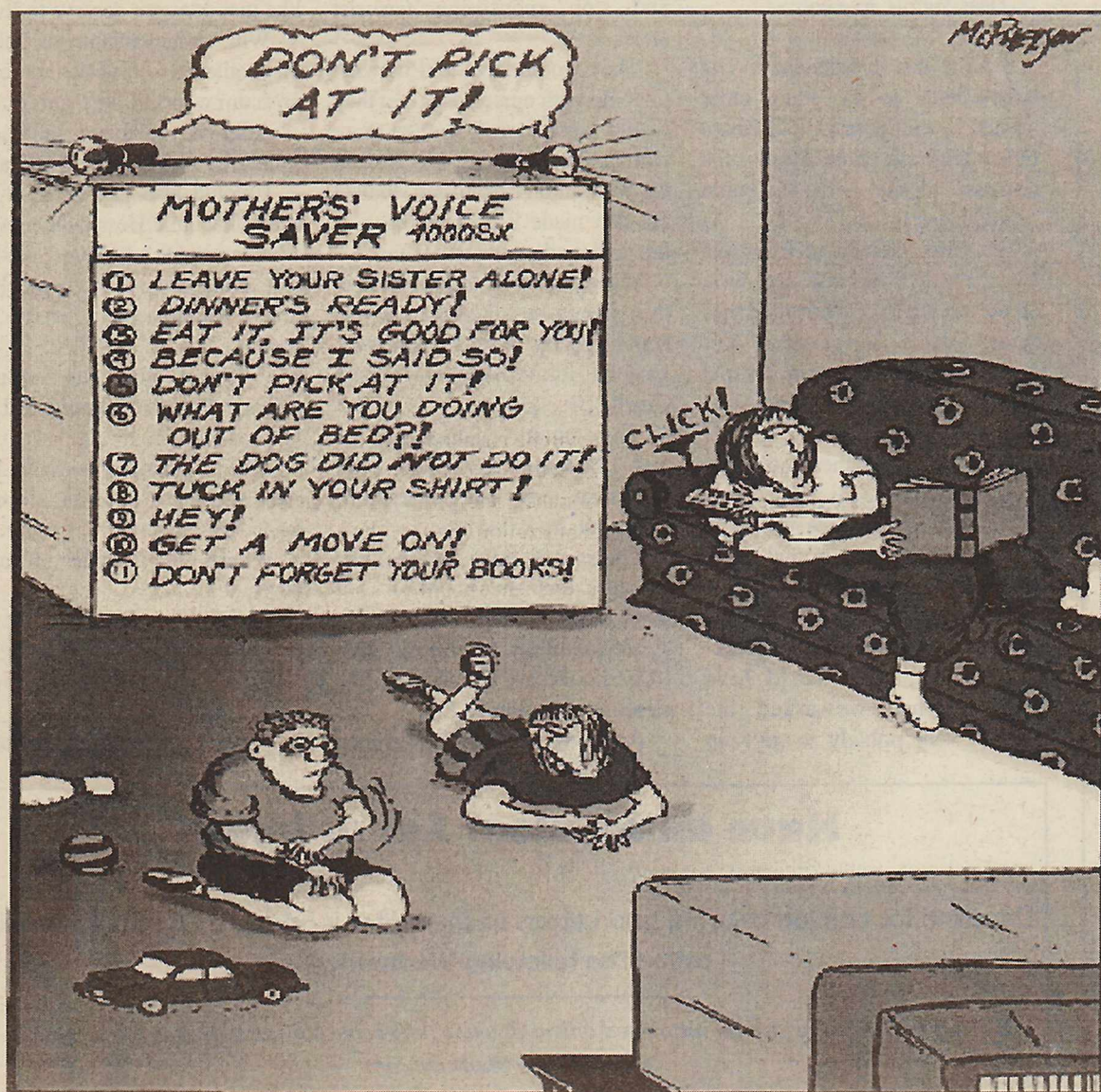


## The Suffolk Journal

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## Staff Editorial

# Toga! Toga! Toga!

Say what you will about fraternities. They have arguably caused more chaos, mayhem and general disorder on college campuses throughout American educational history than any other student institution. Fraternities are the epitome of collegiate immaturity and misbehavior. Fraternities bring to mind images of beer kegs, promiscuous, unprotected sex and the inimitable toga party. Fraternity life has been upheld as the comic ideal in movies such as "National Lampoon's Animal House," the spirit of its decadent bohemianism preserved as immemorial in posters of John Belushi's bourbon-chugging Bluto in dorm rooms around the country.

At many colleges and universities, Greek Life is a dominant social factor, an institutional element that has existed for as long as the schools themselves. Fraternity rows house hundreds of brothers and hold innumerable parties year round. And while the majority of these organizations hold their true, actual goals to be those of community service and brotherhood, classically speaking the attitude of college administrations toward their respective fraternity chapters has often been at least mildly disapproving.

At Suffolk, the issue of fraternities is a delicate one; the now-defunct Suffolk chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon first lost its national charter and was then ousted from the university between 2000 and 2001. Their example was certainly a bad one; TKE's most memorable offense (and the list was not short) involved scorecards and incoming freshman women. Scattered TKE paraphernalia can still be found floating around club offices on the fourth-floor of the Donahue building.

Not to say that TKE was ever a proper frat, Suffolk has been without Greek Life for some time. Quite recently, however, a new player has sprung up; a nascent chapter of Kappa Sigma began its first rush earlier this semester.

So the Suffolk community finds itself in an odd circumstance: perhaps uniquely among modern universities, we are witnessing the first appearances of new fraternity activity in our school. For the most part, colleges seem either to have a Greek contingent, or they do not; they are a definitively major part of the school, or they simply do not exist there. Rarely does one see the beginnings of such a potentially dominant social factor.

KS has already attracted an impressively large group of interested potential members with frequent and interesting activities, and looks to be well on its way to becoming a small but active chapter.

The question, then, is do we want this? Suffolk's social atmosphere has always been a bit deficient as compared to other Boston schools, especially campus-based ones, though that seems to be changing. If Kappa Sigma can contribute positively towards a more lively social milieu in this most central of Boston's colleges, we say good luck, more power to them and don't forget to send us free press passes to the first party.

## The Suffolk Journal

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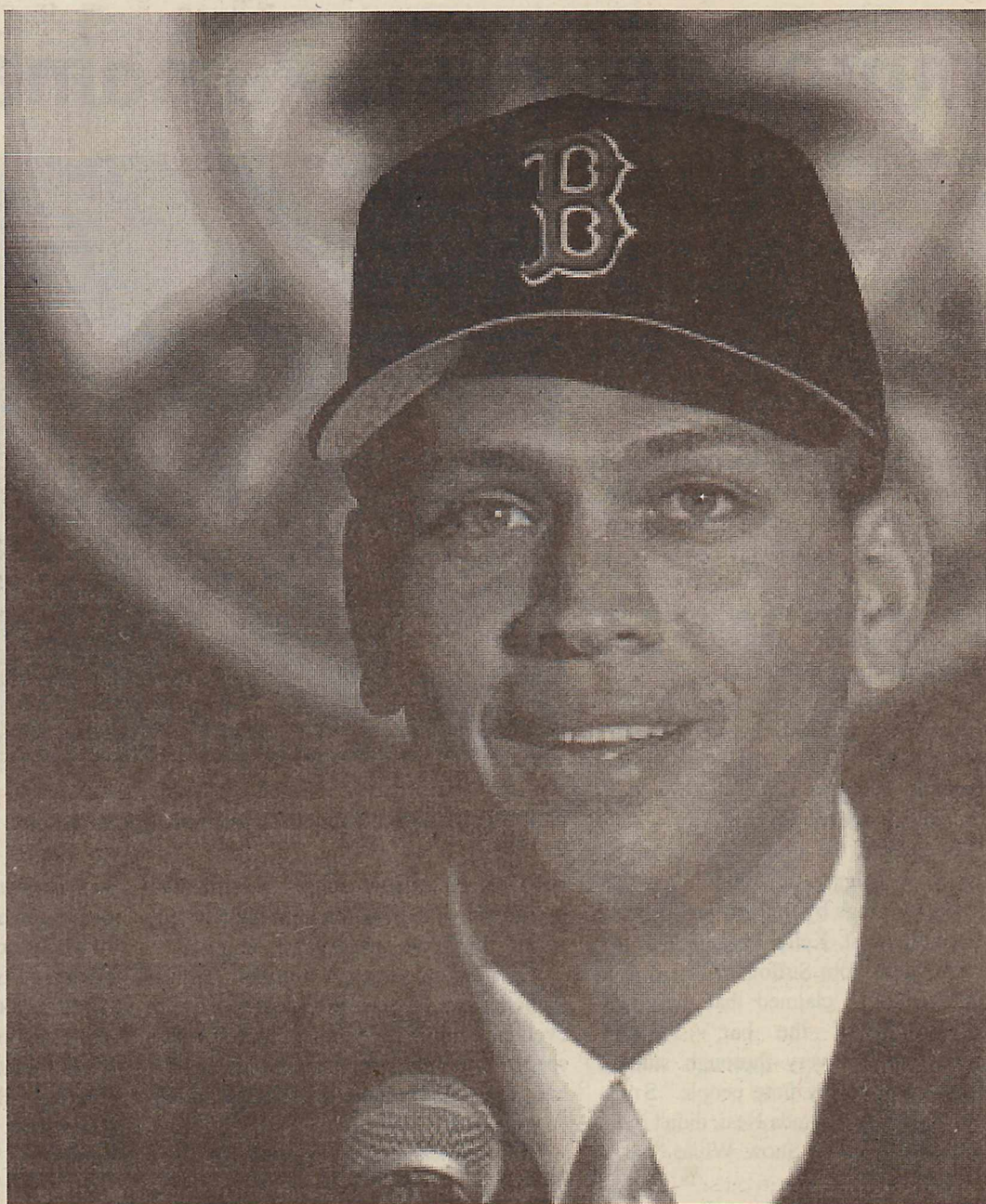
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**What could have been ...  
(Sorry)**



## Letter to the Editor

# A life for a life, Conte says

Dear Suffolk Journal,

I write this in response to last issue's letter to the editor letter written by self-proclaimed human rights advocate Jake Hess as a response to my Feb. 4 column "And justice for all."

Mr. Hess refers to me therein as "what results from a society built on the principle of retributive violence."

This begs the question, what is wrong with a society based on retributive violence?

If someone punches you in the face, then you should punch back. If you don't punch back, then you can expect at least a few more punches to the face.

When a country or organization attacks us, then we must respond.

I wonder, what would have happened had we asked the Taliban very politely to give up

and stop sponsoring terrorist attacks?

They would have told us what to go do with ourselves. Then they would have stoned a few more women for showing ankle. Instead we went into Afghanistan, kicked ass and made it a nicer place to live and made the world safer.

If someone kills little girls, then they should be killed themselves. It's a pretty simple equation. Joseph P. Smith killed 11-year-old Charlie Brucia.

There is surveillance tape of him abducting her. God only knows the terror she experienced as he brutally killed her.

I personally think that that this human excrement should be shot in the face.

He killed an 11-year-old girl; why should he be allowed the pleasure of continued life?

Anybody who commits crimes

like that does not deserve to live.

Why waste valuable tax dollars that could go to feed the homeless on scum who kill little girls?

After he is found guilty, he should be shot about a week later.

I would also like to point out again that Jake Hess calls himself a human rights advocate.

Calling people like Joseph P. Smith humans is a pretty big stretch.

I do not think any self-proclaimed "human" would kill an 11-year-old girl.

Also, I want to know if Mr. Hess also plans to be an advocate for victims.

Where is Charlie Brucia's advocate?

Sincerely,

Michael Conte

## Have an opinion? Let us know.

Deadline for opinion columns and Letters to the Editor is Friday by 5 p.m. for publication the following Wednesday.

Letters to the Editor can be submitted online at [www.suffolkjournal.net](http://www.suffolkjournal.net) or sent in via e-mail to [suffolkjournal@hotmail.com](mailto:suffolkjournal@hotmail.com).



Opinion

This Boston Life

Foibles with the fuzz

I am a 19-year-old white male college student. I had planned what I was going to write about this week but due to unfore-

Tristan Benozzer

seen circumstances an event occurred on the evening of Feb. 15 that I simply must share with anyone who still believes in democracy.

Sunday night was my roommate's birthday, and we decided to celebrate by having a party.

Something happened that night that I will never forget.

Around 30 or so people attended our celebration - an abnormally low amount of people compared to past bashes.

The party was going along fine, the music turned down low to avoid upsetting the neighbors on a Sunday night, with breathing room between each person (not common in our house) and plenty of beer to spare.

At around 10:30 p.m. the fabulous Boston Police Department rang our doorbell demanding to be let in.

I immediately turned down the music as my roommate opened the door for them.

I was hesitant to go outside and speak with them, but it would have been absolutely shameless to let my roommate take all the blame for this particular matter, so I stepped outside.

I told the officers I was also a resident and we were celebrating my roommate's birthday.

Two policemen stood in our hallway, one dressed in the standard dark blue uniform and the other in a flashy, orange police jacket which simply read "Police."

Mister Orange Flash, or Pig No.1, as I shall call him, looked at me with disgust and asked me if I knew what we were doing. I responded, "We are having a birthday party."

He then unloaded his whole speech about harboring minors drinking alcohol and something about that being illegal.

I stopped listening after a while and told him he was being rude.

This did not make Pig No. 1 happy at

all. His valiant response was to tell me we would be receiving a summons to Roxbury Court.

I suppose he expected me to respond with "Oh no, Mr. Police Officer, not Roxbury! Please don't send me where the minorities are."

You're wrong, my little piggy.

I responded by telling him I work with preschool children in Roxbury, where I make a difference in the community. His response, which I suppose was sarcasm, was "Oh, wow." Thus I responded with, "It's better than what you do!"

I believe it was at this point Pig No. 2 pointed out to me that I am "stupid" which he repeated several times, raising his voice louder each time - maybe he thought I was deaf.

I asked him why he called me stupid and he told me I was putting words in his mouth, which I know perfectly well I did not. Everyone had left at this point and it was now time to carry out the beer to the grease mobile to be carted away.

Just as we had almost finished loading the beer into the trunk Pig No. 1 asked me if I would remove the tap from the beer sphere, which I did.

He shrieked at me as though I had hit him in the face and asked me, "What the fuck are you doing?"

I told him that he had just told me to take the tap out, but the red rage in his face had now consumed his entire body. It appeared as though we would be eating steamed pork now.

Mr. Flash approached me harshly, coming but one centimeter from my face and told me that I was a "fresh prick" and "if no one was around I would beat your ass!"

At this point I had become genuinely afraid not of physical harm but of law enforcement in general.

Seemingly no longer here to help the community and myself in my current situation, they would apparently rather manipulate an unarmed citizen with slander, idiotic comments and brutal force.

The motto of every police department is "to protect and serve."

It seems to me that they were not protecting anyone in this situation.

'H-Bomb' bares it all



By  
Chris  
Dwyer

Let the backlash begin.

Of course, a college sex magazine will never sit well with everybody. And by everybody, I mean the uptight people who usually find everything related to sex offensive in some way.

However, the only way to look at this situation is by delving into the only authentic issue worth gabbing about when dealing with any publication: the value of freedom of speech.

Harvard Associate Dean Judith H. Kidd, a member of the 14-person board that is in charge of reviewing all student organizations, commented to the Associated Press about the matter by saying, "We are aware of the fact that some segments of the population would find the contents distasteful. However, the committee considered this to be an issue of freedom of speech."

Good job, Miss Dean, you hit that one on the mark. Freedom of speech, baby, read it.

Strip a way (pun intended) the fact that we have college students offering their undressed bodies as well as art, fiction and advice on sex and what do you get? These kids have the right to publish it all.

The two regulations that might hinder the sexual concoction are as follows: the decision to allow H-Bomb to print does not allow the publishers to apply for school funding. Also, the magazine cannot take its

photos on university property, which is a rule for all of Harvard's publications.

In a statement released by a spokesperson commenting for H-Bomb creators Katharina C. Baldegg and Camilla H. Hrды, the wrangle over whether or not the magazine would be considered a "porn magazine" is clearly argued. "What we are proposing is an outlet for literary and artistic expression that is both desired and needed, not a pornographic magazine," the statement read.

Although the date for H-Bomb's debut issue has yet to be announced, it is pretty much assured that there'll be many a concerned individual who will get their panties in a twist.

However, as with any publication, no one is forcing them to read it. Freedom of speech is not a right that can be toyed with; it is very clear that both Baldegg and Hrды have not only been granted permission to print the student sex magazine, but they have confirmed their vision of an outlet for artistic expression, not to mention free expression.

I applaud the creators for not only standing up and fighting for this publication, but also applaud the Harvard University board that gave them the go-ahead.

To the people who will eventually get pissed about the magazine, I say this: think about the Evil Empire's trade for A-Rod and how much the Sox deserve him instead of the Yankees, who will yet again try to buy a World Championship.

Now there's something to be angry about.

Chris Dwyer is Editor-In-Chief of The Suffolk Journal and can be heard every Friday from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. as part of The Rock Show on Suffolk Free Radio. Check out [www.suffolk.edu/radio](http://www.suffolk.edu/radio) to listen.

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# Opinion

## Opinion Feature

### Popular politics: petty pluralism and the consolidation of the left

The upcoming 2004 election has grabbed the attention of many citizens. Surely any statistics on the matter would show that the driving factor in the soon-to-be mad rush to the polls is over Bush.

Why? Plain and simple: people are unhappy, even many of those who voted him into office. Because of this discontent, voters everywhere, many of whom will be casting ballots for the first time due to the urgency of this cause, have been following

#### Molly Kelleher

the trail of the Democratic National Convention with surprising devotion.

Quite a few of these newfound Democrats have converted for one reason alone: they realize no small independent party is going to take the majority in this election.

This is usually fine - although casting a small party vote won't mean a win it may mean gaining a little more ground than the year before and possibly receiving federal campaign funding.

We already know the man in office is going to be a Democrat conservative enough to win over enough Republicans to get himself elected. So normally, you may as well vote for the man you really want even though you know he won't win.

There are not actually two major parties in this country. All the platforms are the same: moderate, straight down the middle, don't offend anyone, make everybody happy, so everybody will vote for you.

Regardless of the voting patterns of the past, this year is different.

As awful as it is that America pretends to have a two-party system when there is really only one, the scenario which has emerged since Bush has taken office is abundantly worse.

Over the past four years citizens have witnessed a true conservative Republican.

Our politicians are no longer guaranteed to be moderates. Bush is teetering on the edge of the radical right in the opinion of many. Because of this belief, many previously apathetic voters are rushing to the polls to throw their vote to "anyone but Bush."

While this plan is all well and good, and by voting for "anyone but Bush," one is certainly not supporting him, but one may still be putting him into the White House.

If each voter just votes for any old non-Bush candidate, Bush may not get the majority, but he could still get the plurality and that's all he needs.

Those who do not understand the election process are asking, "Hey wait, this is a democracy where majority rules; how can someone be our leader if he didn't get the majority vote?"

That is the beautiful thing about this country - the more deeply one looks into its inner workings, the clearer it becomes that it is not democratic at all.

Therefore, if Bush, for example, gets 35 percent of the vote, and there were five other major candidates, each of whom received only 13 percent of the vote, Bush wins, even though 65 percent of the country wants him out.

How do voters solve this problem? Compromise. We consolidate our support, for the best of the worst, the most electable candidate, out of a fear of splintered support, and a placement of Bush into office by default.

Though this typically takes away from the integrity and worth of one's vote, it is a notion that can be applied in a similarly effective way to other areas of the political arena.

One area in which compromise and consolidation of support would be particularly effective is the political left.

Oh yes, the ominous "left:" what does this word even mean any more?

If you meet someone, the conversation turns to political affiliation, and you both blurt out "leftist," does this mean you share

The one defining characteristic that all these leftist groups share is a disdain for the current state of government, or for the condition of the world in general.

political views with your comrade?

Not necessarily; in fact, in today's world, one has to get a hell of a lot more specific than the general "left."

Countless categories of political thought have been thrown or have thrown themselves into the realm of the left.

But the one defining characteristic that all these leftist groups share is a disdain for the current state of our government, or for the condition of the world in general.

Fair enough, everyone on the left wants change, and most would prefer it to be radical in comparison to today's conservative politics. But the question then becomes, how do we bring about this change?

Working within the system - which is a risky assumption to make since followers of political philosophies such as Anarchists and Communists fall to the left, yet they wish to change the system itself - one needs, as we have discovered, the support of the plurality, not the majority.

While the left has had its moments of glory, the followers of any particular leftist organization at any particular moment never amount to much more than roughly 1 percent of the voters.

According to the posted results of the 2000 presidential election, 4 percent of votes cast were neither for Gore nor Bush. Of this 4 percent, most were leftist organizations: Green Party, Nader, 2.73 percent; Reform Party, Buchanan, 0.43 percent; Libertarian Party, Browne, 0.32 percent; Other, 0.22 percent.

Furthermore, of all these numbers, only 50 percent of the population votes at all. If we as voters could consolidate our votes for

a single leftist party, the left would have 4 percent and not be divided. This is the major problem with the efficacy of today's politics: trivial divisions.

Just as Democrats are concerned Bush will be re-elected due to the division of the Democratic party between many candidates, so too will the left never gain much ground because of the division of loyalty among the many leftist organizations.

There are at least eleven leftist parties out there: Alliance for Democracy, Green, Peace and Freedom, Proportional Representation, Labor, Socialist, Independent, New Party, Nobody for President, Progressive, Worker's Work, to name a few.

If one day we could consolidate the 4 percent vote into one party, the leftist candidates would seem more elect-able, which would in turn drum up more support.

Many people who vote Democrat and some who vote Republican may now vote for the left.

Maybe even that 50 percent of the population who do not vote will actually participate in their government. If enough people vote for the left, they may one day become a viable party, and receive true recognition.

This holds in it the potential for transforming our pretend two party system into a true three party system.

Practically speaking, the consolidation of the left still requires a plan, a mission. As hard as leftist organizations work, fund-raise and gather support, they always seem to hit a brick wall; they can only gain so much support before their momentum plateaus.

Divisive voting causes this metaphorical wall. It's not that everyone voting left doesn't want to change the world, it's just that each party fighting for change is slightly different, or located so far from its counterparts that it didn't know they existed.

So, several small groups of people vote for their own organizations, while new ones are created every day, instead of supporting the ones that already exist so they can combine their power and accomplish more.

As for the slight difference between each party, that presents a big problem. Each party has its own agenda.

The agenda of most leftist organizations is the same, however the rank of the issues on their list tends to differ.

For example, one group may think it is most important for women's rights to be at the top of the list, allowing immigrant rights to fall to the wayside, whereas another group may place immigrants first on their list, and worry about the women later.

Since most people involved in leftist politics feel very strongly about their views, few are willing to compromise.

The first thing leftist organizations need to do is compromise, compile a joint agenda, which tries to solve one problem at a time, even if you have to allow your idea to take the back seat for a while.

So many countless people in the area of activism and politics get burnt out and give up because so little progress is made.

The leftist movement has never had a true leader, one who has united the leftist movement as a whole.

Hopefully one day someone will accomplish the union of the common goals of the leftist parties.

Maybe then America will be a true democracy, where votes count, and citizens are taken care of by a government that views the words "for the people" as more than a cursory motto.

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# Arts & Entertainment

Wednesday, February 18, 2004

The Suffolk Journal

7

## The 'Rising' Keene: author revitalizes horror

Chris Dwyer

Journal Staff

The horror genre can tumble in two different directions: lazy, cliché-ridden and unimaginative or intelligent, malevolent and terrifyingly evil.

Thankfully for us, writer Brian Keene strays in the latter.

In *The Rising*, Keene exhibits a pure horror novel filled with all of the staples we have come to love, including zombies, blood, gore and some classic macabre, all with an astute overtone that makes this apocalyptic tale of survival one to remember.

Keene answered *The Suffolk Journal's* questions about *The Rising*, its upcoming sequel, and other projects he has on the backburner, amongst some old-fashioned horror gabbing.

**Suffolk Journal:** *The Rising* delves into an apocalyptic world, a plot tinge that many recent horror movies ("28 Days Later") attempt to convey. Do you feel that this type of mood is a necessity when tackling a horror novel with zombies?

Brian Keene: I don't think it's a necessity-but it makes for great fun. Hugh B. Cave, Ray Garton, and even Stephen King have written zombie novels that didn't involve apocalyptic settings.

But for *The Rising*, because the scale was so grand-there was just no other way around it. Plus, it's always a treat to play God and destroy the world in your own image (laughs).

**SJ:** What are some of your influences as a writer? Do you draw inspiration from films as well as other writers?

BK: My influences vary, and they've changed over the years just as I've changed. In childhood, it was the Marvel, DC and Charlton comics of the '70s-stuff like Steve Gerber's "Defenders" and "Man-Thing," and Jack Kirby's "Captain America" and "Kamandi: Last Boy on Earth."

Film-wise, my earliest influence was "Land of the Lost," a '70s Saturday morning live-action show with dinosaurs and reptile people and UFO's and other neat stuff.

Later on, it was films like "Phantasm" and "Dawn of the Dead," and horror authors like Richard Laymon, Stephen King and HP Lovecraft.

I was a big fan of the pulp stuff too, books by Edgar Rice Burroughs and Robert E. Howard.

And there are still things that influence me. One of the wonderful things about being an artist-any type of artist-is that you never lose that creative edge. Your muse soaks up everything around you like a sponge.

If I had to pick four authors that had the most direct impact on my current writing, it would be Richard Laymon, Elmore Leonard, John Steinbeck and Robert E. Howard.

**SJ:** Many forms of the horror genre are quite predictable (ie: recent slasher films), how did you create a story that is

continuously unpredictable?

BK: I think it's because I love the genre that I'm writing in. I immerse myself in it. I know the things that make me groan when I see them in a movie or read them in a book. You know, the killer has them trapped in a house and they say 'Let's all split up!'

Or the monster is chasing our heroine and rather than hiding in the woods, she runs down the middle of the road. Or my favorite: the hero has a six-shooter and he fires 14 shots!

Predictable plot points like those drive me insane so I made a conscious effort to avoid them.

**SJ:** I would consider *The Rising* to be an "intelligent" horror novel. Sure, horror staples such as the terror and gore are all there, but the book doesn't have the "cheese" factor that many zombie tales have. How did you convey this?

BK: It was hard, and I'm still not 100 percent sure that I succeeded. I guess it's because when I'm working on something, I really do have a tendency to 'become' the character.

While I'm sitting at the computer, the world around me doesn't exist. I see the character's world through their eyes. So I see what's going on, what's realistic (if anything in a zombie novel can be called realistic) and what's not.

**SJ:** Here's a question that can't be avoided: being a hardcore horror fan like yourself, how do you feel about the upcoming "Dawn of the Dead" remake?

BK: When I first heard about it, I gnashed my teeth, pulled my hair out, and threatened to burn down Hollywood. I think everybody had that same reaction.

But to be honest, since then I've changed my mind. I've had the opportunity to talk with some of the cast members and it really does sound like everybody's heart is in the right place.

I don't think they'll deliver something like the "Psycho" or "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" remakes. I'm particularly pleased that they honored the original cast members. Tom Savini plays a cop in this version, and my good friend Ken Foree (Peter from the original) plays the part of Preacher.

Plus, when you think about it, there's a whole new generation of kids who are unfamiliar with these films.

They grew up reading *Goosebumps* and watching "Scream," so something like "Dawn" is new to them.

I think both old fans and new fans will find something to like, as long as the older fans go into the theatre with an open mind.

**SJ:** There's something about the characters in *The Rising* that makes us actually care about them, especially the character of Jim.

Was this an intentional factor in writing this book?

BK: Very much so. Regardless of what genre you're writing in; be it romance or

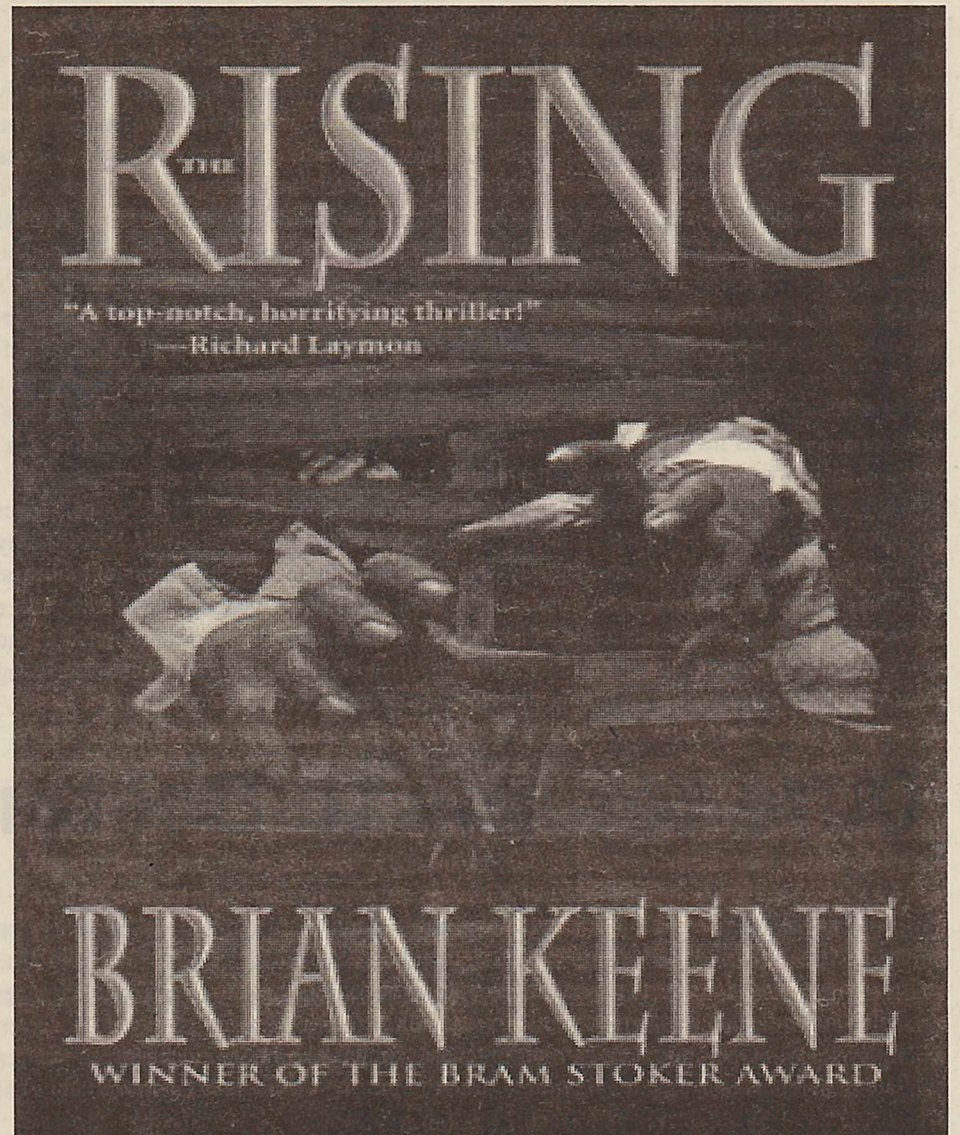


Photo courtesy of Leisure Books

horror or sci-fi or mainstream fiction, a writer's first job is to tell a good story.

No amount of flowery prose or clever style can cover up a bad story. And the only way to tell a good story is to give the reader characters they care about, characters that they can identify with, that they feel they know.

Jim, Martin, Baker, even Frankie, we all know somebody like this in real life or we've crossed paths with them before.

All writers, to some extent, are also autobiographical with their fiction. Some will own up to that and others won't, but the fact remains that it's true.

To tell a compelling story, you have to write what you know.

There's always a little bit of me in each of my characters.

In the case of *The Rising*, it was in Jim. I'm a divorced father and I don't have much contact with my son. I know the pain involved with that, so it was easy and cathartic to write about.

**SJ:** While reading this book, one can just imagine the potential to turn this thing into a feature film.

Have you gotten any attention from Hollywood about a possible movie coming out of *The Rising*?

BK: A lot of attention, but nothing that I can talk about publicly yet. Several studios have expressed an interest.

But it would make a kick-ass movie, wouldn't it? (laughs).

I recently had another story optioned by Hollywood; *Fodder*, a novella I co-wrote

with British author Tim Lebbon.

That one takes place in World War I and features a character loosely based on classical dark fantasist William Hope Hodgson, the author of *The Night Land* and *The House On The Borderland*.

Chesapeake Films picked up the option for that so hopefully we'll have more news soon.

**SJ:** Speaking of feature films, what have you been watching in terms of the horror genre?

BK: I've actually been re-watching older favorites. A lot of the new stuff just hasn't done it for me.

"Freddy vs. Jason" was fun because it delivered exactly what it promised, and nothing more. I enjoyed "Dog Soldiers" and "28 Days Later," but that's about it.

"House of the Dead" was awful, as was "The Order," "Jeepers Creepers 2" and "Gothika." So I've been going through my classics: John Carpenter's remake of "The Thing," Romero's "Dead" trilogy, "Cube," "Jacob's Ladder," "They Live," the "Evil Dead" and "Phantasm" series, stuff like that. I've enjoyed some of the new Japanese horror flicks too; films like "Battle Royale" and "Ringu."

**SJ:** What has the reaction been like on your current tour?

I can just picture the rabid zombie-flick fans, wearing old-school "Night of the Living Dead" t-shirts, waiting in line

see Keene, page 10



# Duo finds '50 Ways' to romance the audience

**Diana Rossi**

Journal Staff

"50 First Dates" is not just another Adam Sandler movie. This romantic comedy is actually romantic, and the comedy isn't half bad either.

Straying away from his usual goofball antics, Sandler proves to critics that he can be the "heartthrob," or at least a damn good leading man.

Commitment phobic Henry Roth (Sandler) is a marine life veterinarian in Hawaii who woos women tourists into sleeping with him.

Once he gets his "kicks," he makes up every excuse in the book in order to leave the women with a clear conscience and no follow-up phone call.

In a predictable turn of events, Henry meets Lucy (Drew Barrymore), and falls for her immediately.

After joining her for breakfast and falling in "like" with her, Henry returns the next morning, but Lucy doesn't remember him. The waitress at the diner informs Henry that Lucy was in an accident and has no short term memory.

Henry begins a quest to make Lucy fall in love with him, each and every day.

With the help of Lucy's over protective

father (played by Blake Clark) and her steroid-pumping, ego-maniacal brother Doug (Sean Astin), Henry attempts to invent little ways for Lucy to recognize and remember him the next day.

As "Saturday Night Live's" Maya Rudolph puts it in her cameo, most men "don't even open the car door" for their girlfriends after a while, but Henry makes her fall in love with him again every day.

Short-term memory loss has been quite a touchy subject in movies, previously only allowing for a serious look as in "Memento." "Groundhog Day" tried to make it funny, but "50 First Dates" takes it one step further. Audiences are treated to incredible comic relief from Rob Schneider's character Ula, (Henry's Hawaiian, pot smoking, shark-loving, hippie best friend), a fellow marine-life veterinarian whose gender is questionable, and a lisping Sean Astin who does a complete 180 from hobbit Sam in the "Lord of the Rings" series.

Drew Barrymore and Adam Sandler have an undeniable chemistry which only got better the second time around. "50 First Dates" is definitely a good date movie since it can make anyone feel romantic, which can be very convenient... since "there's nothing better than a first kiss."



Photo courtesy of Columbia Pictures

Barrymore and her "heartthrob" Sandler have undeniable chemistry.

# Ours returns to Boston with fiery new lineup

**Amanda Bellamy**

Journal Staff

Standing on the smoldering ruins of alternative rock, Ours emerged from a year and half long hiatus to play old favorites and preview new songs on the Paradise Rock Club's stage Friday night.

Carrying the torch abandoned by alternative rocks gods such as Chris Cornell and Jeff Buckley, opening act A Wish for Fire continues the tradition of singing about grieve, amour and sex over a whining guitar. Before launching into a song called "Lay Down My Love," lead singer Owen Beane gave a small disclaimer, "no, it's not as dirty as you think." After some brief

thoughts, "it's definitely as dirty as you think." Channeling the late Buckley, Beane croons with the same intensity and carries each song with his vocals. In "Wide Open Skies," Beane laments, "through the holes in the sky of the night, I can see a piece of the light."

Despite his slight figure, Jimmy Gnecco dominates any stage, on this night garbed in a vintage leather jacket and jeans so small his girlfriend probably couldn't squeeze into them.

In July of last year, guitarist Dave Milone left Ours, prior to entering the studio to begin work on the band's third album. He was eventually replaced with two guitarists; Locke, who specializes in bowed guitar and

the aloof Vinny.

Opening with "Miseryhead," the new lineup didn't miss a beat as Gnecco wailed, "I'm in a cloud; it's pulling me down, breaking me down."

The band blazed through unreleased material and older songs from their debut album, before the supporting members took a seat. Gnecco welded an acoustic guitar to play "I Heard You Singing," a dedication to his fallen friend, Buckley. Gnecco paid tribute to his friend with lyrics alluding to his incredible talent, "I heard you singing, heard you sing, you sang to us, you sang Hallelujah."

As Gnecco announced the closing number, fans shouted their favorite song.

Gnecco abandoned his electric guitar in favor of an acoustic and obliged the crowd by playing "Meet Me in the Tower," a poignant and powerful song which anchors the band's debut album, *Distorted Lullabies*. The crooner insisted the crowd sing along, and to finish the tune, the audience sang Gnecco's words to him.

To finish the show, Gnecco and company played the scheduled closing number, a new track entitled "Use Me." The 8 minute opus reached its fevered pitch when Gnecco began beating a tribal drum, at one point kicking the drum. If "Use Me" is any indication, the forth coming third album from Ours doesn't lack any of their previous efforts' luster.

Please Attend

## The English Department Open House



When and Where:  
Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>,  
1:00-2:30pm  
Fenton 134A



Featured Event: English Majors Share Stories from the Working Worlds of Law, Literature and Education (begins 1:15-1:30)

- ✧ Refreshments and snacks will be provided
- ✧ Learn about courses offered in the department
- ✧ Meet other English majors and minors
- ✧ Meet the English faculty and staff

Questions or Comments?

Please contact Dr. McKinley (x8629) or Dr. Rich Miller (x8722)

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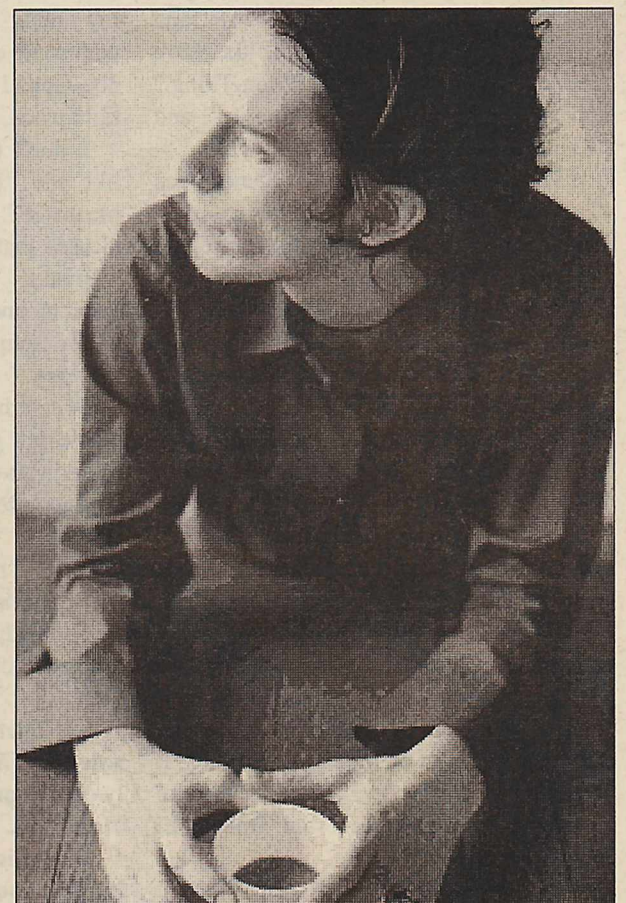


Photo courtesy of Dreamworks Records

Jimmy Gnecco broods over a cup of coffee.



# The Mars Volta: Changing the face of prog rock

Lark Rissetto

Journal Contributor

Many bands seem to face the challenge of having to either reinvent their music album after album or paint their musical style into a corner.

Post-hardcore band At the Drive In was one such band that faced the latter.

It seemed that in 2001 At the Drive In would be a long-time player in the music game after their successful European tour, however some members of the band felt otherwise.

Vocalist Cedric Bixler Zavala and guitarist Omar Rodriguez-Lopez wanted something more.

They wanted a concept record that would explore the vast cavities of the human psyche and leave a listener feeling completely dumbfounded and yearning for more.

That record idea came when the two, joined by drummer Jon Theodore, bassist Juan Alderete and keyboardist Isaiah Owens, formed the critically acclaimed band The Mars Volta.

In June of 2003 The Mars Volta released *De-Loused in the Comatorium*, a record that gives true meaning to the word "eclectic."

The album is based on the life and times of close friend and artist Julio Venegas; a man so wrapped with personal pain that he ended his own life in 1996.

Julio's lifelong battle with drug addiction and his eventual suicide made such an impact on Cedric and Omar that they decided to abandon their post-hardcore cage and start a project of mass proportions.

The story, written by Cedric, is part fiction and part non-fiction.

It tells of Julio attempting suicide by overdosing on heroine, failing and then end-

ing up in a coma for a week.

Each song portrays a different adventurous dream that Julio is having while unconscious and in the end Julio awakes from his slumber, but chooses to kill himself anyway.

Although the songs are lyrically written in a stream of consciousness-type style, the music is executed brilliantly.

The record contains an amalgamation of recognizable influences ranging from Led Zeppelin to Bjork to Fugazi and never does a song displease.

The album is packed with moments of progressive rock genius marked with mind-numbing improvisation by both Omar and Alderete.

Each song cascades into the next making the listener internally feel Julio's journey and perhaps it is Cedric one must thank for the pleasure.

His vocal work is absolutely genius; containing an element of being completely out of control, but still maintaining sanity. His voice morphs into a sound beautifully similar to Icelandic siren Bjork on tracks like "Drunkship of Lanterns," and becomes strikingly similar to the majestic croon of Robert Plant on the track "Take the Veil Cerpin Taxt."

The rest of the band cannot be left in Cedric's dust, however, because it is the entire package that makes the experience possible.

The drums and bongos can make one feel like one is listening to a Santana song, while the virtuosity of Omar's guitar work makes the song seem like a Zeppelin tune. The mesh of sound creates sheer musical brilliance.

The Mars Volta are not the only ones to thank for the album's success.

The band had the help of old pals Flea and John Frusciante of the Red Hot Chili

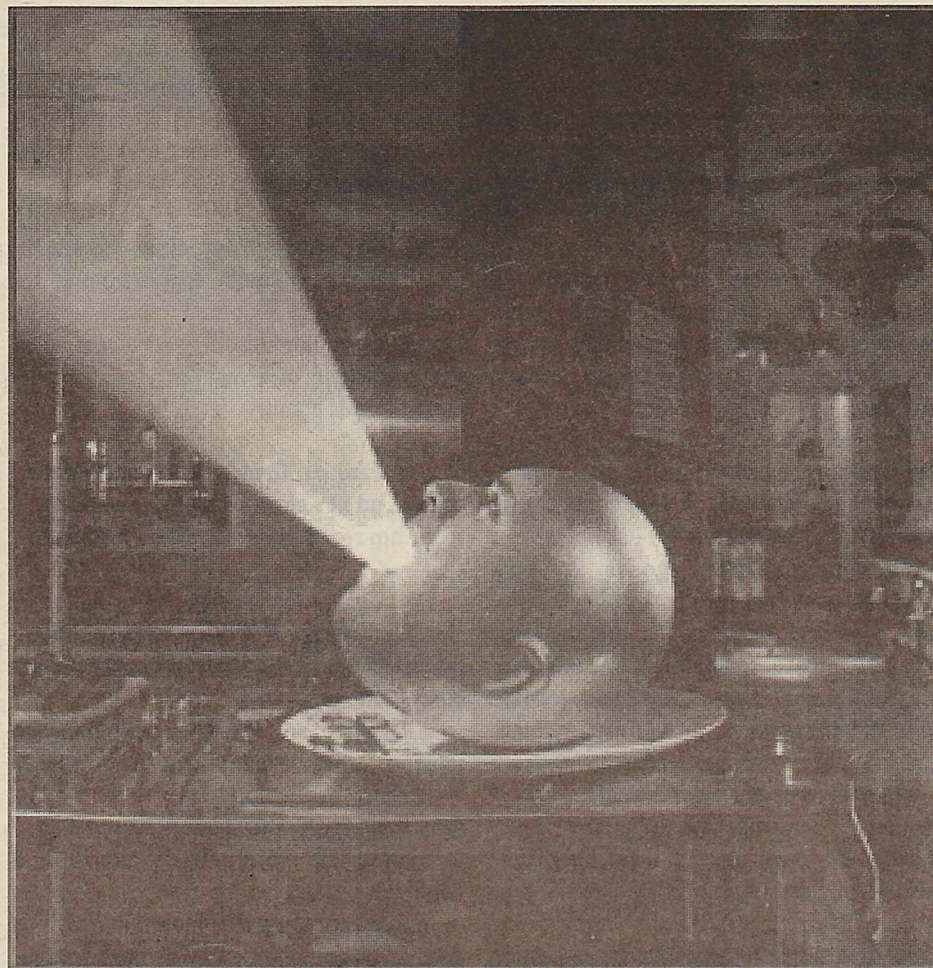


Photo courtesy of Universal Records

The Mars Volta segueway into the vast rock unconsciousness on *De-loused*.

Peppers on the record.

Of course, it also didn't hurt that music veteran Rick Rubin produced the intricate record.

The Mars Volta have created such an impact with their music that they are now currently on tour with powerhouse A Perfect Circle and are rumored to be opening up for them April 30th at the Worcester

Centrum.

**Check Out the Mars Volta if You Like:**

**Bjork**

**Led Zeppelin**

**Santana**

**Fugazi**

**At the Drive In**

**Sparta**

**Pink Floyd**



## Chore for Tuesday, Feb. 24:

**Attend the Financial Aid  
Workshop  
At 1 p.m. in the Donahue  
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**Sponsored by: the  
Hispanic Student  
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Aid**

**Reminder: March 1 is the  
undergrad deadline!!  
Apply on time!!**



# Horror author chats about new novel, projects

Keene from page 7

for you to sign their book.

BK: Ha! Yeah, you've got them, and I love those guys, because they are the heart and soul of this business. But you'd be surprised.

A lot, and I mean a *lot*, of the people who are buying this book are little old ladies who bend over and whisper to me how much they loved it, like it's a guilty pleasure or something.

There're also a lot of blue-collar guys, reading it on their lunch break and yuppies passing the time with it on their commute to work. It's a very broad mix of society.

It's funny, five years ago, on my first book tour, it was a very rock 'n' roll style show. I was still underground, and the fans were primarily those you mentioned. I'd do things like sign breasts and slam tequila shots and chow down on worms; anything to get the buzz, get more readers.

But as I've gotten older and gone mainstream, my audience has done the same. The original readers are still there, but mainstream America has climbed aboard the bus too.

It's neat to watch them interact with each other, even on my website's message board.

SJ: Have you read *The Zombie*

*Survival Guide* by Max Brooks (son of Mel Brooks)?

It's categorized as "humor," but any horror fan could see that it's very straightforward and serious, not to mention very convincing.

BK: I loved it! My editor at Bantam-Dell, Rich SanFilippo, sent it to me for Halloween, and I devoured it in a weekend. I think it's required reading and should be on the bookshelf of every survivalist compound in this country.

SJ: *Fear of Gravity* is being released soon, and it seems like it's a departure from horror. Tell us a little bit about it.

BK: This is a new collection of short stories. Eighty percent of them are never before published, and a few are reprints from various anthologies.

All of them are horror stories, but for the most part, they deal with real-life horrors.

"Dust," for example, deals with the monsters that hijacked those airplanes and flew them into the World Trade Center and Pentagon.

"Marriage Causes Cancer In Rats" is about a cheating husband who has his family murdered.

"Babylon Falling" explores the horror of war and takes place during the current con-

flict in Iraq.

There are a few more traditional tales, but for the most part, I wanted to explore the things that haunt us everyday.

My hardcover publisher, Delirium Books, is releasing it as a signed limited edition and that will be the only version available.

It will probably sell out before it ever makes its way to the bookstore shelves, the limited editions usually do, so those that are interested might want to stop by my website, [www.briankeene.com](http://www.briankeene.com), for more info.

One especially neat thing is this: those that order the book get *The Rising: Necrophobia* with it for free. This is a special chapbook that contains four new stories set in the world of *The Rising* and provides a bridge between the first novel and the upcoming sequel.

SJ: Finally, can we get an inside glance at the sequel to *The Rising*?

It's tentatively titled *More Than Infinity*, correct?

BK: Yes. No. Maybe. All of the above. (laughs)

The hardcover, due out from Delirium Books at the end of the year, is indeed called *More than Infinity*.

The paperback, due out from Leisure Books next year, is called *City of the Dead*.

They are the same book but Leisure wanted a different title, something that sounded more 'horror,' which would make it easier for bookstores to categorize.

Without giving too much away, the sequel picks up exactly where the first book left off (not an easy task, since I never envisioned a sequel when I first finished *The Rising*). The pace is faster, the plot is thicker, and the danger is more perilous than anything from the first book.

Most of the sequel will take place in New York City, a New York City overrun by the undead. Most of the characters that survived *The Rising* will be back, and there will be many new characters too.

But one thing I know for sure, this time around, nobody is safe.

SJ: Well Brian, thanks for your time. Kudos on being one of the top voices in horror! We hope to see you soon here in the Northeast.

BK: Thanks Chris! I appreciate the kind words. Hope to get to Boston for the release of *City of the Dead* or my next mass-market novel, *Terminal*, but either way, I'm gonna get up there!

Check out [www.briankeene.com](http://www.briankeene.com) for more information and to order *The Rising*.

Interested in writing Arts and Entertainment?

We're always looking for music and movie reviews.

Drop by Donahue 428 or send us an email at [suffolkjournal@hotmail.com](mailto:suffolkjournal@hotmail.com)

## University Dateline

For more information for getting your event listed in Dateline contact the Student Activities Office at (617) 573-8082.

### Wednesday, February 18

3:00-4:00 p.m. Crash Course in Finding Work Fast in Sawyer 808

3:30-4:00 p.m. "One Stop" Event Planning Operations Meeting in D535  
4:00 p.m. 2004 Orientation Leader Information Session 10 Somerset (1st Floor Lounge)

1:00 p.m. S.O.U.L.S. Steering Committee Meeting in D535

Yes, we have the same goal as you do. We want to see you succeed. Office of Retention Services: "We are here to help you." Claflin Building. 2nd Fl. 20 Beacon St. 617-573-8798.

### Thursday, February 19

4:30-6:00 p.m. Career Doctor in the Sawyer Lobby

5:00-8:30 p.m. Halo Lan Party in D403  
Registration is \$5 or free if you purchase a ticket to the Hip-Hop Comedy Night

6:00-10:00 p.m. Greek Festival in the Donahue Café

7:00 p.m. HOC vs. Fitch. State

8:00 p.m. "Adaptation" presented by Suffolk Student Theatre

### Friday, February 20th

Orientation Leader Applications Due  
6:00pm Black Student Union Presents 2nd Annual Hip-Hop Comedy Show Featuring Michael Blackson, SU Step Team & "Urban Explosion" in the C. Walsh Theatre, Tickets \$6 and available at the HUB

8:00pm Adaptation presented by Suffolk Student Theatre

### Saturday, February 21

Overnight Ski Trip to Sugarloaf (must have purchased tickets in advance at the HUB)

2:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. "Adaptation" presented by Suffolk Student Theatre

### Sunday, February 22

2:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. Adaptation presented by Suffolk Student Theatre

### Monday, February 23

3:00-3:50 p.m. Pronunciation Workshop (every Monday all semester) in ELCA

5:00-9:00 p.m. International Movie Night in the Donahue Lounge (4th Floor)

### Tuesday, February 24

12:00-2:30 p.m. Resume Critique Day (fifteen minute appts.) RSVP to [careers@suffolk.edu](mailto:careers@suffolk.edu)

1:00-2:30 p.m. The Legacy of Matthew Shepard, A Presentation by Judy Shepard in the C. Walsh Theatre

1:00-2:30 p.m. Dress for Success in D218B

### Wednesday, February 25

12:00-1:15 p.m. Career Doctor in the Donahue Lobby

1:00 p.m. S.O.U.L.S. Steering Committee Meeting in D535

4:00-5:15 p.m. 2004 Orientation Leader Group Process Interviews in the 2nd Floor Lounge of the Residence Hall  
5:00 p.m. Movie Night in the Donahue Lounge (4th Floor)

8:00 p.m. "The Laramie Project" in the C. Walsh Theatre, Tickets are free and available at the HUB



# 'Barbershop' entices laughs

Valeria Mecozzi  
Journal Staff

A movie like "Barbershop 2: Back In Action" resembles "Cheers" for the black community. Everybody does indeed know your name but instead the cast is hilarious as well as controversial. The sequel to the 2002 box office hit is a surprising mix of comedy, subplots, politics and controversy.

Run by Cedric, played by the talented Ice Cube, the story starts with a flashback on how Eddie (Cedric the Entertainer) became a fixture to the barbershop crew after hiding there while running away from the cops in the late 50s. It continues to show the returning characters, Eve, Troy Garity, Michael Ealy playing Terri, Isaac and Ricky, respectively. The movie's main plot is centered around Chicago's entrepreneur Quentin Leroux (Harry Lennix) deciding to build Nappy Cutz right across the street.

Obviously, Nappy Cutz is a franchised hair salon which holds the dream to all hair salons: indoor basketball court, fish tanks, top of line equipment and bixini waxing. Easily summed up as the black Supercuts.

There are noticeable differ-

ences in the characters. Despite Eddie's unchanging controversial character (who is not allowed to discuss Rosa Parks anymore), Terri is softened to a goody-two shoes instead of the bitch we expected and Isaac, the only white character, has let fame get to his head. We learn he has since become renowned as a the best barber in town and he hasn't let anyone forget it, acting and talking as if he's king of the hill.

But Eddie, or namely Cedric, is what gives the movie its fame. He is hilarious as always, quoting, "the D.C. sniper is the Jackie Robinson of crime" and taking a swing at Bill Clinton's freakiness. His subplot involves a past girlfriend, who ended up becoming the love of his life. He later reunites with his love in the same dramatic gesture as he initially had used to capture her heart.

With Nappy Cutz building across the street, Cedric is asked to sell his shop so the block can become a franchised layout of 7-11, Starbucks, Blockbuster and Subway. The movie revolves around the battle of the 14 day countdown of Nappy Cutz's opening and the entire crew trying to figure out how to save their business. From barbeques for the regu-

lars to ameliorating the shop's image (no swearing, no loud music and politely greeting all customers), the battle also comes from the cast trying to save the shop's image to going from a "Cheers"-like environment to sell-out.

Overall, the movie has many strong points. It is obviously funny yet allows the viewer to reflect on some serious issues instead of just laughing for 90 minutes at a few jokes here and there. It does seem to try and squeeze in too many different storylines, plots and character traits that aren't embroidered enough to make a difference in the story so it ends up feeling like too many things desperate for attention. Queen Latifah makes a star side character, as the owner of the beauty salon right next door which will soon be a spinoff and turned into a movie.

The director tried to jam in too many different issues, from love, to politics, to friendship, to controversy to make this movie well-balanced and easily definable. It is worth the ticket money, if not for the laughs and what Cedric manages to sell us, then for the appreciation of trying so hard, and succeeding, in making this "not another black movie."

# Jovi disappoints

Jenn O'Callaghan  
Journal Staff

Bon Jovi's "This Left Feels Right: Live" limited edition DVD is disappointing.

Bon Jovi has successfully destroyed many of their hit songs in these new re-arrangements.

All of the band's lively and energetic songs have been slowed down and made into ballads.

Knowing how songs like "It's My Life" sound and should be performed, and then seeing it poorly re-arranged and preformed is surprising.

Some of the re-arrangements aren't too bad; but, overall, the idea to re-arrange so many of their hits was a bad idea.

Other performers have re-arranged songs with success; but this attempt falls flat.

For a concert video, it is extremely dull. Jon Bon Jovi hardly moves around, preferring to stand behind the microphone and sing without passion.

He fails to be engaging at any point throughout the concert. It completely lacks even a hint of the glitz or glamour that a rock star should have.

The DVD also lacks any redeeming qualities in the lighting

DVD

REVIEW

► Title:  
***This Left Feels Right: Live***

► Artist:  
**Bon Jovi**

► Label:  
**Universal**

or camera angles.

The camera angles don't move much, likely because there isn't anything worth showing in this particular performance.

The limited edition DVD includes a second disc with six live performances from the band's concert in Hyde Park in London.

This performance has the typical energy that fans expect.

In this concert, Jon Bon Jovi moves and sings. He also interacts with the crowd.

The six performances are, unfortunately, the only part of the DVD package worth watching because it shows the Bon Jovi fans recognize.

## SSOM Undergraduate Day at "THE RACK"

No tickets are required and guests are welcome!

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Saturday, Feb. 28th

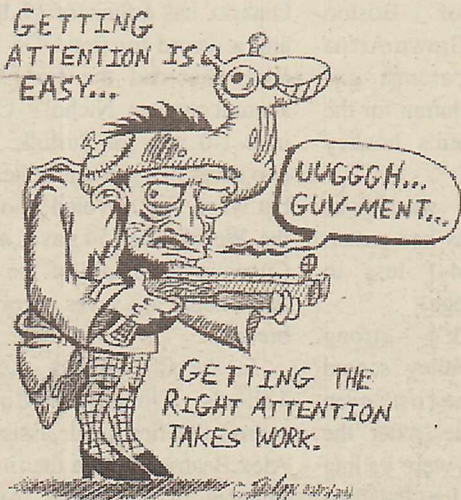
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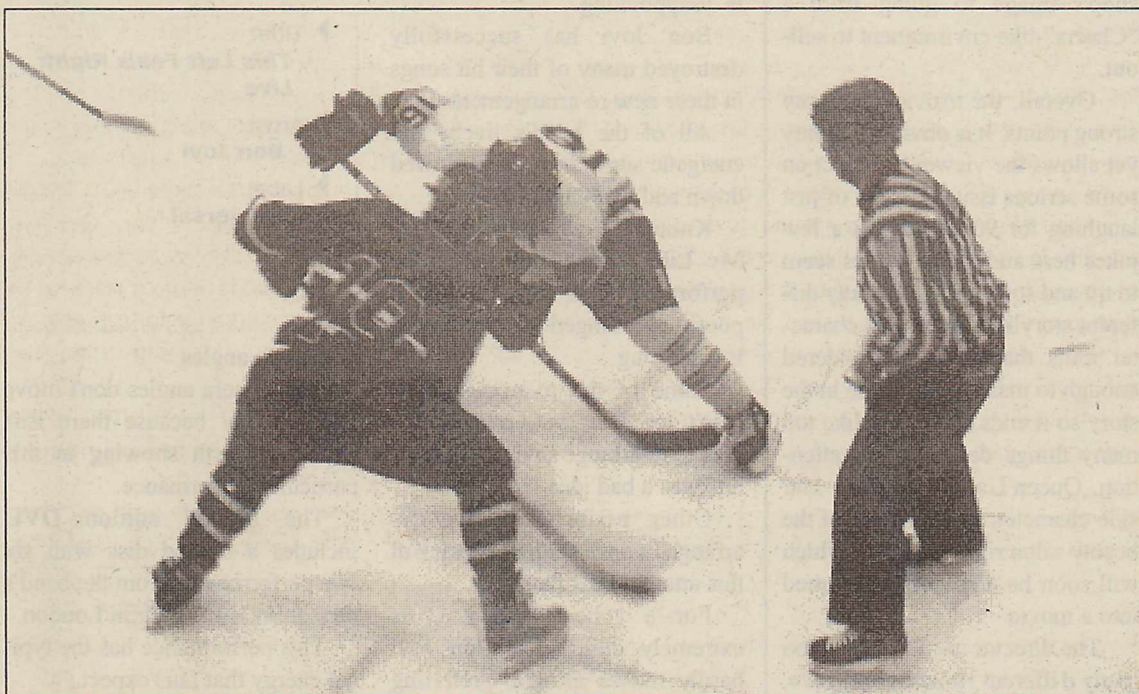


# Sports

Wednesday, February 18, 2004

The Suffolk Journal

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Eleni A. Bourinaris - Journal Staff

Suffolk and Lebanon Valley College face off during the Valentine's Day men's hockey game.

## V-Day heartbreak for Suffolk

Eleni A. Bourinaris

Journal Staff

The stands of Boston University's Walter Brown Arena were filled with parents, girl friends and Suffolk alumni for the Valentine's Day men's hockey game on Feb. 14.

The atmosphere wasn't as romantic as the Rams had anticipated after their 4-1 loss to Lebanon Valley College.

Despite Suffolk's strong defense, Lebanon Valley scored three goals within the first seven minutes of the game. After the third goal Rams fans were yelling to pull the goalie. Joe Paladino was pulled after what proved to be a bad night for him and was

replaced by sophomore Greg Blais.

Blais, from Sault Saint Marie, Ontario, has a flair for ice hockey and a record for firsts. On Feb. 5 Blais recorded the first NCAA shutout against Nichol's College in a 1-0 win for Suffolk. Thirty two saves in a game is quite a feat, but when you're voted "Goalie of the Week" after 54 saves against Curry in the finals of the Curry Invitational, 32 saves seem like a breeze.

In the first period Lebanon Valley's Doug MacCormack scored the first goal, assisted by Alex Beatrice within the first four minutes of the game. Anthony Pace scored 20 seconds later on a goal assisted by Beatrice and

MacCormack.

Suffolk tried to get back in the game when Sophomore Marc Lanzilli scored on a goal assisted by junior Bryan Woodford. It was Lanzilli's eleventh goal of the season.

Lebanon Valley went on to secure their two-goal lead with an unassisted goal scored by Cameron Vandever.

The defense was strong for both teams, until the third period when Suffolk left an open gap for Mike Kuzmuk assisted by Anthony Lattanze who scored the final goal of the game.

Though putting in a hard effort, the Suffolk Rams were left straggling the rest of the game behind the Flying Dutchmen.

## Sports briefs

### Men's Basketball

Suffolk fell 90-87 in overtime to Emmanuel on Feb. 14. Forward Neil Simard hit a buzzer beater at the end of regulation to send the game into overtime. On Feb. 17, Suffolk will take on Norwich. On Feb. 19, they play at Albert Magnus. On Feb. 21 they close out the season at home vs Rivier.

### Women's Basketball

Although losing on Feb. 14 to Emmanuel 65-56, Suffolk rebounded quickly and crushed St. Joseph 75-58 last night. In defeating St. Joseph, Suffolk clinched home court advantage for the GNAC tournament. On Feb. 19, Suffolk is going on the road to take on Pine Manor. Although it is a GNAC game, it is relatively meaningless overall. On Feb 21, Suffolk's great regular season run will come to

an end at home against Rivier.

The Women's Basketball Coaches Association ranked Suffolk's women's basketball team in the top 25 in the nation in Division III academics with a team 3.37 grade point average. Suffolk is 18th as a team and second best in New England, just behind 17th place Wellesley. Suffolk head women's coach Ed Leyden nominated his team from 2002-03 and the Rams were honored with an Academic Top 25 Honor Roll.

### Men's Hockey

Sean Pelleney was named MVP of the hockey alumni game. Suffolk has officially clinched a spot in the ECAC Northeast Championship tournament.

*Briefs compiled by Journal staff member, Garrett Quinn.*

## Interested in writing for sports?



Contact

Editor in Chief

Chris Dwyer

Call 573-8323 or

suffolkjournal@hotmail.com

## Sox loss equals Yankees gain in A-Rod deal

Brian Messenger

Journal Staff

Zimmer-down, cowboy. You didn't really think Boston would enter spring training as the clear favorite in the AL East, did you? That would be too easy, like the monkey on Red Sox Nation's back looking down and asking if we'd like a piggy-back ride.

What's that? We've got Curt Schilling and Keith Foulke now? That's true, but didn't you get Steinbrenner's valentine?

In a blockbuster deal that sent second basemen Alfonso Soriano to Texas, Alex Rodriguez (a.k.a. the best player in baseball) is now a New York Yankee.

After Rodriguez's trade talks with the Sox fell through in December you have to admit, this one hurts pretty bad. To Boston with love, from George the Terrible.

It wasn't very long ago that Sox fans were saying hello to A-Rod and goodbye to Nomar and Manny.

But Rodriguez's whopping \$252 million contract was too obese for the Red Sox to negotiate around. Even with the help of major league officials, Boston still couldn't lasso the Lone Star State's biggest hardball

attraction.

In the eyes of baseball fans, players and owners across the country the A-Rod trade buzz was all much ado about nothing. Except, apparently, in the eyes of George Steinbrenner, a man whose team's payroll is so gluttonous that it makes Major League Baseball's small-market (but still multi-million dollar) franchises look anorexic.

With just one motion of his evil magic wand, the Bombers' Big Cheese brought the MVP shortstop to the Bronx, leaving the New York lineup stuffed and the rest of the American League sick to their stomachs.

Who will be the starting nine for the Yankees this season? Well, besides a hole at second base their lineup is pretty much already determined.

They signed center fielder Kenny Lofton, who will more than likely be their lead-off man.

Then you get to the heart of the order, listed in no particular order: Derek Jeter, A-Rod, Jorge Posada, Jason Giambi and slugger Gary Sheffield who was picked up from the Braves. That leaves Hideki Matsui and Bernie Williams, two dangerous bats (anyone for an ALCS Game 7 flashback?), at the

tail-end of the lineup.

Now a Yankee, Alex Rodriguez is likely to become an unpopular figure around these parts. Truly a testament to how mercurial the nature of being a Sox fan is, A-Rod will go from the top of our wish-lists to the top of our shit-lists, all quicker than in a New York minute.

How soon his handsome face now resembles that of Derek Jeter's. Both are nationally recognized pretty-boys and both are young, highly marketable individuals. Both are all-star shortstops working for The Boss. Both are great ball players, but hey, that doesn't matter anymore now, does it? (Insert Yankees Suck chant here).

So we didn't get what we had originally wished for but it's still good to have Nomar and Manny back this spring. These guys tore it up for us at Fenway all season long. Would we really want to part with them? It just wouldn't have been the same.

Sure, the pursuit of one of baseball's best players may have had us thinking otherwise, but in the long run it's probably best to preserve one of baseball's best teams. Sox fans will be seeing A-Rod play in pinstripes, but was this trade for the superstar shortstop the

knockout blow that will leave Boston seeing stars?

Don't count on it. The old baseball adage that great pitching beats great hitting leaves the Bo-Sox in a favorable position.

With a starting rotation of Pedro, D-Lowe, Wakefield, Schilling, and whoever ends up being the fifth man, the Sox will be putting a serious threat on the mound nearly every game.

As for the Yankee pitchers, they picked up Kevin Brown and Javier Vazquez during the off-season, but they also lost Andy Pettitte, David Wells, and Roger Clemens. Unless Steinbrenner can get his money-grubbing paws on Greg Maddux, the Red Sox will surely go into 2004 with a better equipped pitching staff.

The rich can get richer and the cursed can cry and cuss all they want, but the fact remains that there's still a whole season ahead. That's 162 chances for a team to prove that they're worthy of playing fall ball.

A-Rod aside, let it be known: Red Sox Nation is hungrier than ever. And if this year's THE YEAR, wouldn't that make George's little valentine that much sweeter?